

Appl. No. 10/787,085
Amendment dated: June 30, 2005
Reply to OA of: March 4, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 - 5(cancelled).

6(currently amended). The composition of claim [[3]] 25 wherein said fluxing additive is selected from the group consisting of alumina, lime, silica, magnesia, iron, metal hydroxide and mixtures thereof.

7(original). The composition of claim 6 wherein said metal hydroxide is at least one hydroxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of copper, nickel, cobalt, precious metal and platinum group metal.

8-16(cancelled).

17(currently amended). The method of claim [[16]] 29 wherein said metal hydroxide is an hydroxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of copper, nickel, cobalt, precious metal, platinum group metal and mixtures thereof.

18-21(cancelled).

22(original). A method for treating inert anodes which comprises isolating cermet from said anodes; comminuting said isolated cermet to produce comminuted cermet; optionally using some or all of said comminuted cermet as a component in the manufacturing of inert anodes which contain cermet as a component thereof; and using all or a portion of said comminuted cermet as smelter feedstock in a smelting procedure to thereby recover metal values from said cermet.

23-24(canceled).

25(new). A smelter feedstock composition from which metal values are recoverable in a smelter, said composition consisting essentially of comminuted cermet which has been isolated from inert used anode, inert unused anode, inert anode manufacturing residue, or combinations thereof; which further comprises a fluxing additive which facilitates smelting of said composition in a smelter; and wherein said composition has been roasted under oxidizing conditions to oxidize a portion of said composition.

26(new). A smelter feedstock composition from which metal values are recoverable in a smelter, said composition consisting essentially of comminuted cermet and further comprises an ore concentrate.

27(new). The composition of claim 26 wherein said cermet is isolated from inert used anode, inert unused anode, inert anode manufacturing residue, or combinations thereof.

28(new). The composition of claim 27 which further comprises a fluxing additive which facilitates smelting of said composition in a smelter.

29(new). A method for recovering metal values from smelter feedstock which comprises smelting said feedstock in a smelter which produces a first component containing said metal and a second component which is slag; and recovering said metal values from said first component; wherein said smelter feedstock is the composition of claim 25.

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30(new). A method for recovering metal values from smelter feedstock which comprises smelting said feedstock in a smelter which produces a first component containing said metal and a second component which is slag; and recovering said metal values from said first component; wherein said smelter feedstock composition is the composition of claim 26.

31(new). A method for recovering metal values from smelter feedstock which comprises smelting said feedstock in a smelter which produces a first component containing said metal and a second component which is slag; and recovering said metal values from said first component; wherein said smelter feedstock composition is the composition of claim 27.

32(new). A method for recovering metal values from smelter feedstock which comprises smelting said feedstock in a smelter which produces a first component containing said metal and a second component which is slag; and recovering said metal values from said first component; wherein said smelter feedstock composition is the composition of claim 28.